

## **Potassium Iodide Fact Sheet Following Japan's Earthquake**

**3/14/2011**

### **Where Can I Get Potassium Iodide?**

Potassium Iodide is available for residents who live or work in the Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) surrounding the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. San Luis Obispo County residents who live or work in the Emergency Planning Zone can bring in their voucher to pick up their free potassium iodide supply. The voucher is also available on the County's Public Health website.

Locations currently distributing Potassium Iodide to EPZ residents:

San Luis Obispo Office, 2191 Johnson Ave., San Luis Obispo (805)781-5500

Grover Beach Office, 286 S. 16th St., Grover Beach (805)473-7050

Dana Nelson's HealthPlus Pharmacy, 948-A East Foothill Blvd., San Luis Obispo (805)543-5950

Potassium Iodide is also widely available from commercial manufacturers:

Iosat (866) 463-6754

ThyroShield (636) 343-8200.

### **How Do I Know If I Live in the Emergency Planning Zone?**

An EPZ map is available on the San Luis Obispo County Office of Emergency Services website at [www.slocounty.ca.gov/oes](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/oes) or you can refer to the fullsize version of the AT&T phone book with information beginning on page A30.

### **When Should I Take Potassium Iodide?**

Potassium Iodide should only be ingested at the direction of the County Health Officer.

Potassium Iodide is only a supplementary protective measure. Evacuation or Shelter-in-Place is the primary public safety measure. If the County Health Officer deems the ingestion of potassium iodide appropriate following a release of radiation in SLO County, the public will be alerted through the Emergency Alert System.

### **Will Potassium Iodide Be Needed due to the Emergency at the Japanese Nuclear Power Plant?**

No, potassium iodide is not needed due to the emergency in Japan.

You will only be advised to ingest potassium iodide following a release of radiation from Diablo Canyon Power Plant.

Any release of radiation from nuclear power plants in other regions cannot emit radiation at levels that would necessitate the ingestion of potassium iodide by residents of San Luis Obispo County.

### **Since Potassium Iodide is Not Needed due to the Emergency in Japan, should I still come pick it up?**

Yes, we encourage residents who live in the Emergency Planning Zone to be prepared should an emergency occur at Diablo Canyon Power Plant. Residents should store their potassium iodide with their emergency kit and be prepared to ingest it should the County Health Officer advise doing so following a radioactive release from Diablo Canyon.

### **What If I Do Not Live in the Emergency Planning Zone?**

If you live outside of the Emergency Planning Zone, you are not expected to need potassium iodide following an emergency at the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. You may choose to purchase Potassium Iodide through a commercial manufacturer.